

Washington, DC -- Congressman Vern Buchanan (FL-13) voted today to prevent members of the U.S. House and Senate from receiving a congressional pay raise next year. Buchanan said Congress does not deserve a raise until it balances the budget.

“Until Congress gets spending under control it doesn’t deserve a salary hike,” said Buchanan.

“How can we justify giving members of congress a pay raise if they don’t have the discipline necessary to balance the budget and reduce the debt?”

The House voted 398 to 24 to pass the rule to the omnibus spending bill, which included language to block the automatic cost-of-living adjustment for Members in 2010.

Buchanan has introduced legislation that would prevent congressional pay raises in any year that they run a deficit. Furthermore, the 13th District Congressman has donated his previous pay raises to charity.